

# **DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY**

**Client/Project:** South Mountain Corridor Study Citizens Advisory Team

**Date:** April 24, 2003   **Time:** 5:30 p.m.   **Location:** Vee Quiva Casino

## **CAT Members Attending:**

Rock Argabright, Ahwatukee Foothills Chamber  
Kris Black, Ahwatukee Foothills HOA  
Chad Campbell, Sierra Club  
Ron Chohamin, Lakewood HOA  
Michael Goodman, Phoenix Mtns Preservation Council  
Don Jones, Southwest Valley Chamber of Commerce  
Robert Moss, United Arizona Dairymen

Wayne Nelson, GRIC District  
Silverio Ontiveros, Laveen Village Planning Committee  
Nathaniel Percharo, Pecos Rd/I-10 Landowners Association  
Laura Prendergast, Laveen Citizens for Responsible Dvlpmnt.  
Jim Stroger, Kyrene de los Logos Elementary School  
Mary Thomas, GRIC Elderly Concerns Group

## **Guests:**

Jose Solarez., GRIC Economic Development

## **Staff and Consultants Attending:**

Thor Anderson, ADOT  
Amy Edwards, HDR  
John Godec, GRA  
Theresa Gunn, GCI

Bill Hayden, ADOT  
John Roberts, GRIC DOT  
Bill Vachon, FHWA

**Meeting Summary:** Jennifer Graziano, GCI

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## **Next Meeting:**

- May 22, 2003

## **ACTION PLAN:**

<b>Task/Activity</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
Invite Bill Hahn to discuss 303 status	Bill Hayden	

## **Meeting Handouts:**

- Updated Project Schedule

## **Welcome and Introductions:**

John Godec called the meeting to order and introduced Jose Solarez. CAT members checked in and gave updates on what has been happening since the last meeting.

- Keep hearing rumors about the Rio Salado Parkway.
  - Rio Salado Parkway starts at 7<sup>th</sup> between Broadway and the river. On the west end it ends at the South Mountain Parkway at the old alignment.
- I-10 Pecos Landowners want to know if the tribe has offered any alternatives.
- City is going to widen Baseline Road beginning in November – January.
- Senator Kyle s lobbying for additional access to PIR.
- Have heard plans about Baseline going to 115<sup>th</sup>.
- Avondale is planning a resort on their side of PIR.
- Ahwatukee HOA annual meetings didn't have a lot of talk or questions about the freeway.
- Districts 6, 4, and 7 are planning a joint meeting to discuss the transportation study in a couple of weeks. If they concur, what are the next steps?

### **Technical Update:**

- Thor reported that the project team is further refining the alignments that would tie into 101 to lessen the potential impacts on SW Valley communities.
- Next step is to take new alternatives to the SW Valley cities.

### **GRIC Update:**

- Bill Hayden stated that FHWA and ADOT officials met with the GRIC Governor this afternoon. It was recommended that the team meet with Districts 4, 6, and 7 to obtain concurrence to proceed with identifying alternatives for GRIC. Process for identifying alternatives is unknown at this time.

### **SW Valley Issues:**

Don Jones provided an overview of concerns from the cities of Tolleson, Avondale and Goodyear.

#### **Tolleson**

- 5.5 square miles
- I-10 cut off the northern portion of the community.
- 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue would divide the western industrial portion of the community.

- New development occurring along 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- City Hall is in close proximity to 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Relies heavily on revenues from industry.

### **Avondale**

- Would like an interchange at 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- New auto mall started in December of 2002
- 115<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 107<sup>th</sup> Avenue are major arterials with extensive new development.

### **Goodyear**

- Bring the freeway out to Loop 303.

### **CAT Comments:**

- Can the freeway go down 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue?
- Can the freeway be elevated and build underneath? It is possible.
- There is a significant amount of traffic from the warehouse area.
- Has anyone asked the trucking firms about their preference? 51<sup>st</sup> avenue has a lot of trucks.
- A lot is happening that may impact the future traffic and Laveen, GRIC, Phoenix and others are being impacted not just Tolleson.
- When I-10/101 connection was designed was there any plans for going south? **Response:** No, in 1985 voters approved the map with a tie in at 55<sup>th</sup> and there were not any plans to go south to the 101.
- Can see freeway may need to be on the GRIC boundary to avoid the growth today and in the next year and a half.
- If Avondale wants to help PIR they need to accept some of the impacts and put the freeway on an alignment along 107<sup>th</sup>/115<sup>th</sup>.
- How would they tie into Loop 303 and serve PIR at the same time with out impacting their communities?
- Any consideration of the additional commercial growth that will occur along the new freeway and benefit the communities?

- Concern about the cities allowing planning in freeway corridors. It is a piece meal process each City does their own thing. We need a regional approach to transportation planning, not just one freeway at a time. Need more insight into what other western cities are doing.
- Things get voted down because there is not a plan. New ½ cent tax must have a map that doesn't allow cities to build in alignments.
- How do you get a real plan with a truly regional system? Some people are going to win and some aren't.

## **Laveen Issues:**

Laura Prendergast gave an overview of Laveen issues.

- There are only 10 businesses.
- Have 3 neighborhoods.
- 1988 alignment cuts one neighborhood off from the rest of the community.
- Would like an alignment along 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- What was reason that Laveen developed sporadically?
- About 5-6 years ago major property owners petitioned to be annexed by Phoenix but a majority is still in the county.
- Thunderbird Cartridge is located adjacent to a potential alignment and has restrictions on the location near arterials with more than 3,000 vehicles per day (at the dead end of Southern).

Silverio Ontiveros continued the discussion of Laveen issues.

- Want I-10 to I-10 connection with no dead ends.
- Most developers are doing a plan A and a plan B with/without a freeway.
- There are some that want to move the freeway further west.
- Access to downtown along Baseline or Southern and is fairly easy today.
- Phoenix may still use alignment as a Parkway if no freeway is built.
- Design of freeway and noise, if it stays, will be a big issue. Community expectations are for a depressed freeway with similar wall treatments as 101 in Scottsdale.
- Concern of the number of interchanges. Originally no traffic interchanges at Dobbins to allow the city center to remain more rural. Developers now want an interchange at Dobbins but the community wants less access. No access at Elliot.
- Transportation corridor should enhance the community.

### **CAT Comments:**

- Laveen is building out now and needs to maintain the right-of-way.
- If you can, move to 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue from the original alignment and let the City build a parkway on the original alignment.
- Are there truly any completely open corridors?
- Not sure there is a consensus in Laveen.
- Original alignment might be acceptable if designed and built correctly.
- 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue may have fewer impacts.
- Group expressed some support for proposed 99<sup>th</sup> Avenue and for 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue alignments.
- Blue alignment makes a little more sense because it has been planned but could move either way.
- 75<sup>th</sup> Avenue north of the river is rapidly being built out – may not be space in a year or two.
- Can't go beyond the next year and a half. Need a decision sooner.

### **GRIC Issues:**

- GRIC landowners in the northern area are concerned about not being able to develop or farm their lands. Need to make a decision and start something.
- Trucks are a big concern of the tribe and the growth is going to continue.
- **Question:** What are the chances that any GRIC alignment would not tie into the existing Pecos Road alignment?

### **Issues Other:**

- Amy distributed an updated schedule through June 2005.
- Ahwatukee meetings – John Godec explained the purpose of agenda item and suggested delaying the discussion until the May meeting and will have a better idea of GRIC alternatives in the next couple of weeks.
- Article in Ahwatukee newspaper re: Stanton's position on Pecos Road.

### **Next CAT Meeting:**

- May 22, 2003